

Eric C. Thompson
Director of Bureau of Business Research
Associate Professor of Economics
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PERSONAL DATA

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OFFICE ADDRESS

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Date of Birth: December 9, 1965

EDUCATION

Ph.D.	School: University of Wisconsin-Madison (Agr.Economics) Date: Spring 1992 Major: Community Economic Development
M.A.	School: University of Wisconsin-Madison (Agr. Economics) Date: Spring 1990 Major: Community Economic Development
B.A.	School: University of Chicago Date: Spring 1986 Major: Public Policy

COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY POSITIONS

August, 2004 – Present:	Associate Professor of Economics and Director, Bureau of Business Research, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
August, 2002 – July, 2004	Acting Director/Director, Center for Business & Economic Research, University of Kentucky
July, 1996 – June, 2002	Associate Director, Center for Business & Economic Research, University of Kentucky
July, 2001 – July, 2004	Research Associate Professor, Department of Economics, University of Kentucky
July, 1995 – June, 2001	Research Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, University of Kentucky
October, 1991 – June, 1995	Research Assistant Professor, Center for Economic Research, West Virginia University

PUBLICATIONS

(Articles in refereed journals)

“Entrepreneurship, Information and Growth,” (with D. Bunten, S. Weiler, and S. Zahran). *Journal of Regional Science*, published online October 7, 2014 (DOI: 10.1111/jors.12157)

“The Gender Question in Economic Education: Is it The Teacher or The Text?” (with C. Asarta and R. Butter). *Perspectives on Economic Education Research*, 9(1) (2014): 1-19.

“Economic Issues in School District Consolidation” (with B. Dority). *Great Plains Research* 23(2) (2013): 145-158.

“Local and Statewide Smoke Free Laws in Nebraska: Sorting out the Effects of a Smoking Ban on Keno Establishments” (with M. McGarvey, B. Dority, and J. Sainath). *Contemporary Economic Policy*: 31(3) (2013): 549-564.

“The Production of Economic Knowledge in Urban and Rural Areas” (with R. Butters and C. Asarta). *Journal of Agricultural and Applied Economics*. 45(1) (2013): 1-15.

“Destination Choices of Michigan Outmigrants: Key Determinants and Implications for Community Marketing,” (with R. Butters and Z. Zhang). *Journal of Regional Analysis and Policy*. 42(1) (2012): 36-46.

“The Property Value Premium of a Place of Worship,” (with R. Butters and B. Schmitz). *Contemporary Economic Policy*. 30(2) (2012): 215-222.

“Local Input and Productivity Growth in U.S. Manufacturing 1972-2002,” (with G. Hammond). *Journal of Regional Science*. 51(2) (2011): 339-354.

“Property Values on the Plains: The Impact of Historic Preservation.” (with D. Rosenbaum and B. Schmitz). *The Annals of Regional Science*. 47(2) (2011): 477-491.

“Divergence and Mobility in College Attainment across U.S. Labor Market Areas: 1970-2000.” (with G. Hammond). *International Regional Science Review*. 33(4) (2010): 397-420.

“The Role of Conservation Research and Education Centers in Growing Nature-Based Tourism.” (with R. Edwards). *Great Plains Research*. 20 (Spring) (2010): 51-70.

“Determinants of State Labor Productivity: The Role of Density,” (with C. Decker and M. Wohar). *Journal of Regional Analysis and Policy*. 39(1) (2009): 1-10.

“Determinants of Income Growth in Metropolitan and Non-Metropolitan Labor Markets,” (with G. Hammond). *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*. 90(3) (2008): 783-793.

“Smoke-Free Laws and Employee Turnover,” (with E. Hahn, G. Blomquist, J. Garen, D. Mullineaux, N. Ogunro, and M. Rayens). *Contemporary Economic Policy* 26(3) (2008): 351-359.

“Measuring the Impact of Tourism on Rural Development: An Econometric Approach,” *The Journal of Regional Analysis and Policy*, 37(2) (2007): 147-154.

“Convergence and Mobility: Personal Income Trends in U.S. Metropolitan and Non-metropolitan Regions.” (with G. Hammond). *International Regional Science Review*. 29(2006): 35-63.

“Employment Risk in U.S. Metropolitan and Non-Metropolitan Regions: The Influence of Industrial Specialization and Population Characteristics.” (with G. Hammond). *Journal of Regional Science*. 44(2004): 517-542.

“Deregulation in the Electric Utility Industry: Excess Capacity and the Transition to a Long-Run Competitive Market?” (with F. Scott and M. Berger). *Growth and Change*. 35(2004): 1-20.

“Mobility and Modality Trends in US State Personal Income.” (with G. Hammond). *Regional Studies*. 36 (2002): 375-387.

“Valuing the arts: A contingent valuation approach.” (with M. Berger, G. Blomquist, and S. Allen). *Journal of Cultural Economics*. 26 (2002): 87-113.

“The Long-term Development of Local Retail and Service Spending in Rural Southeastern Counties” (with G. Hammond). *The Review of Regional Studies*. 31(1) (2001): 51-70

“The Evolution of a New Industrial District: The Dixie Automobile Industry.” (with S. Weiler and T. Ozawa). *Planning & Markets*. 4 (September 2001), pp. 24-29.

“Does Public Infrastructure affect economic activity? Evidence from the rural interstate highway system,” (with A. Chandra) *Regional Science and Urban Economics*. 30 (2000), pp. 457-490.

“The Effects of Electric Power Deregulation on Regional Prices,” (with M. Schweitzer). *Economic Review of the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland*. (2000, 3rd Quarter), pp. 2-12.

“Contingent Valuation in Arts Impact Studies,” *The Journal of Arts Management, Law, and Society*. 28 (1998), pp. 206-210.

“Targeting Occupations for Displaced Workers: A Test in Wisconsin Regions,” (with R. Shaffer). *The Review of Regional Studies*. 26 (1996), pp. 147-164.

(Books)

Thompson, Eric and William Walstad, 2008. *Entrepreneurship in Nebraska: Conditions, Attitudes, and Actions*. Omaha, Nebraska: Gallup Press.

(Parts of Books)

“Patterns of Economic Development within West Virginia,” in *West Virginia in the Nineties*, Tom Witt and Robert Dilger, eds. Morgantown, WV: West Virginia University Press, 1993, pp. 73-95.

FACULTY WORKING PAPERS

Human Capital Premiums Across US States - 1990 – 2013, (with S. Bikienga and D. Rosenbaum).

Safety and Economic Assessment of Converting Two-Way Stop Controlled Intersections to Roundabouts on High Speed Rural Highways, (with S. Zhao and A. Khattak, A), under review at *the Journal of Transportation Research Forum*.

“Agricultural Subsidies and Non-Farm Entrepreneurship Choice,” (with J. Anderson and V. Tran)

“The Role of Parental Experience in Entrepreneurship Choice among Adults,” (with C. Asarta, F. LeMarie and Z. Zhang)

“To Switch or Not to Switch?: Industry Switching By Displaced Workers During the Great Recession” (with J. McEntaffer, S. Fuess and H. Hartman)

“Green Jobs for Displaced Workers?”(with H. Hartman, S. Fuess and J. McEntaffer)

“Growth Hills: Location and Movement along the Curve” (with D. Rosenbaum, and V. Khanzhyn)

“The Local Economic Impact of the Farm Boom: An Econometric Approach” (with C. Konou).

EDITORIAL BOARDS

Growth and Change: A Journal of Urban and Regional Policy, January 2005 – December 2006

EDITORIAL SERVICE

Co-Editor, *Growth and Change: A Journal of Urban and Regional Policy*, July 2003 – December 2004.

MANUSCRIPT REFEREE:

Economic Development Quarterly (2012)

Journal of Regional Science (2011)

Regional Studies (2009)

Contemporary Economic Policy (2008-2010)

Review of Economics and Statistics (2008)

Review of Regional Studies (1999, 2007, 2008, 2013, 2014)

Regional Science and Urban Economics (2006)

Journal of Regional Analysis and Policy (2006)

Economic Development Quarterly (2006)
Growth and Change (1995-2006)
Economic Inquiry (2004)
International Regional Science Review (1994, 2002)

OTHER REVIEW SERVICE

External Reviewer for tenure and promotion file, Economics Department, Oklahoma State University (2013)
External Reviewer for tenure and promotion file, Economics Department, Creighton University (2010)
External Reviewer for tenure and promotion file, Economics Department, Boise State University (2008)
External Reviewer of the Center for Economic Analysis at Michigan State University (2008)

RESEARCH GRANTS AND CONTRACTS, 2009-2014

Value of Grants Received 2009-2014: \$1,200,000

Selected Projects 2009-2013

“Measuring the Impacts and Returns from Early Childhood Education and Programming in Nebraska,” Sponsored by First Five Nebraska, 2012 to 2013 (with L. Knoche and D. Rosenbaum).

“Entrepreneurship and Rural Development: The Role of Agricultural Subsidies on Non-Farm Entrepreneurial Ventures”, Project 5, UNL CAFIO-Policy Research Group, USDA Policy Research Centers Grant Program (with J. Anderson).

“Evaluation of Nebraska Weatherization and Energy Loans,” Sponsored by the Nebraska Energy Office, 2010-2012 (with D. Rosenbaum)

“The 2010 Economic Impact of Nebraska Agriculture,” Sponsored by the UNL College of Agricultural and Natural Resources, 2011 to 2012 (with B. Johnson)

“Labor Supply, Training Needs, and Re-Employment Opportunities In “Green” Occupations,” Sponsored by the Northern Plains and Rocky Mountain Research Consortium, 2010 to 2011 (with S. Fuess)

“Heritage Tourism Economic Impacts and Tourism Plan,” Sponsored by the Nebraska State Historical Society, 2010 to 2011

“The Economic Development Impact of Highway Improvement Projects,” Sponsored by the Nebraska, Department of Roads, 2010-2011

“Comprehensive Data Services for Lincoln, Nebraska,” Sponsored by the Lincoln Partnership for

Economic Development, 2010-2013

“Determinants of Entrepreneurship Concentration across U.S. Labor Market Areas, sponsored by the U.S. Small Business Administration, 2008-2009 (with G. Hammond and T. Gurley-Calvez)

Previous Academic Years (aggregate):

Value of Grants Received 1995-2008: \$2,900,000

Selected Projects Sponsors 1995-2008

NE Departments of Economic Development, Labor, Revenue and Health and Human Services

Nebraska, Omaha, Grand Island, and Lincoln Chambers of Commerce

Lower, Middle, and Upper Republican Natural Resource Districts

Planning Department, City of Omaha

U.S. Department of Labor

Northeast Regional Center for Rural Development

KentuckianaWorks (Louisville, KY WIB).

Appalachian Regional Commission

TVA Rural Studies Program

Kentucky League of Cities

Greater Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce

Commonwealth of Kentucky Cabinets: Workforce Development, Transportation, Revenue, Tourism, Human Services

Louisville Gas & Electric/Kentucky Utilities

SEMINAR/ CONFERENCE PAPERS PRESENTED

“The Role of Parental Experience in Entrepreneurship Choice Among Adults,” Presented at the North American Regional Science Association Meetings, Atlanta, Georgia, November 2013.

“Destination Choices of Michigan Outmigrants.” Presented at Mid-Continent Regional Science Association in Detroit, Michigan, June 2011.

“Learning in High School Economics Courses: Explaining the Rural Achievement Gap.” Presented at Mid-Continent Regional Science Association in St. Louis, Missouri, June 2010.

“Smoke-free Laws and Employee Wages.” Annual Meeting of the Western Regional Science Association in Sedona, Arizona in February 2010.

“Outlook for the Nebraska Economy.” Annual Meeting of the Western Regional Science Association in Sedona, Arizona in February 2010.

“Divergence and Mobility in College Attainment Across U.S. Labor Market Areas: 1970-2000.” Regional Science International Association Meetings in Brooklyn, NY, October, 2008.

“State Spending on Post-Secondary Education and Endogenous Economic Growth.” Presented at the Western Economic Association Meetings in Seattle, Washington in July 2007.

“Economic Outlook for Nebraska.” Presented at the Western Economic Association Meetings in Seattle, Washington in July 2007.

“Determinants of State Labor Productivity: The Role of Density.” Presented at Mid-Continent Regional Science Association Meeting in Kansas City, Missouri, June 2007.

“Measuring the Economic Impact of Tourism on Rural Development: An Econometric Approach,” Mid-Continent Regional Science Association Meetings, Indianapolis, IN. June 2006.

“Amenities, Local Conditions, and Fiscal Determinants of Growth in Rural America, Regional Science Association International Meetings, Toronto, CA. November 2006.

“Student Loan Default Rates in Baccalaureate Granting Institutions,” Western Regional Science Association Meetings, Newport Beach, CA, February 2007

“Economic Outlook for Nebraska and the Dakotas” Western Regional Science Association Meetings, Newport Beach, CA, February 2007.

“Determinants of Income Growth in U.S. Metropolitan and Non-metropolitan Labor Markets” (with G. Hammond). Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Western Regional Science Association International. February 2006.

“Outlook for the Nebraska Economy” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Western Regional Science Association International. February 2006.

“Determinants of Income Growth in U.S. Metropolitan and Non-metropolitan Labor Markets” (with G. Hammond). Invited presentation to the Center for the Study of Rural America at the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City. February 2006.

“Outlook for the Nebraska Economy” Regional Economic Roundtable of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City. November 2005.

“Smoke-Free Laws and Employee Turnover.” Presented at the Annual North American Meetings of the Regional Science Association International in Las Vegas, Nevada in October 2005

“The Case for Local Control: 3 Examples from a Midwestern State.” Presented at the Annual North American Meetings of the Regional Science Association Int’l in Las Vegas in Oct. 2005.

“Convergence and Growth in U.S. Labor Markets: A Structural Approach in Both U.S. Metropolitan and Non-Metropolitan Regions.” (with G. Hammond). Presented at the 2004 North American Meetings of the Regional Science Association International.

“Convergence and Mobility: Personal Income Trends in U.S. Metropolitan and Non-metropolitan Regions.” (with G. Hammond). Presented at the West Virginia University Economics Seminar Series. November 2003.

“Employment Risk in U.S. Metropolitan and Non-Metropolitan Regions: The Influence of Industrial Specialization and Population Characteristics.” (with G. Hammond). Presented at the 2003 Southern Regional Science Association Meetings.

“Convergence and Mobility: Personal Income Trends in U.S. Metropolitan and Non-metropolitan Regions.” (with G. Hammond). Presented at Central European University Budapest Seminar in Economics Series. Budapest, Hungary. May 2003.

“Employment Risk in Southern Counties in the U.S.” (with G. Hammond). Presented at the 2001 North American Meetings of the Regional Science Association International.

“Mobility and Modality in U.S. Regional Income” (with G. Hammond). Presented at the 1999 North American Meetings of the Regional Science Association International.

“Do Interstate Highways Affect Economic Growth?” (with A. Chandra). Presented at the 1999 Midwest Economic Association Meetings.

“Long-Term Trends in the Kentucky Economy” (with M. Berger, D. Black, J. Garen, W. Hoyt, S. Allen, A. Chandra, J. Hulbert, F. Scott, and G. Blomquist). Presented at the Fall 1999 Association for University Business and Economic Research Meetings.

“The Long-Term Development of Local Retail and Service Spending in Rural Southeastern Counties” (with G. Hammond). Presented at the 1999 Southern Regional Science Assn Meetings.

“The Impact of Employment Growth on Local Labor Force Participation.” (with S. Maggard. Presented at the 1994 Conference on the Dynamic Aspects of Rural Development hosted by the United States Department of Agriculture.

SEMINAR/ CONFERENCE PAPERS PRESENTED (At UNL)

“Growth and Convergence in U.S. Labor Markets: A Structural Approach in Both Metropolitan and Non-metropolitan Regions.” (with G. Hammond).

PROGRAM ORGANIZER

Program Organizer

2013 Association for Business and Economic Research (AUBER) Fall Meeting

2008 Association for Business and Economic Research (AUBER) Fall Meeting

2006 National Association of Business Economists Spring Policy Meeting (AUBER Sessions)

CONFERENCES ATTENDED

2013 Fall North American Meetings of the Regional Science Association International
2013 Regional Economic Roundtable of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City
2013 Fall AUBER Meeting
2012 Fall AUBER Meeting
2011 Midwest Economic Association Meeting
2011 Regional Economic Roundtable of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City
2010 Fall AUBER Meeting
2010 Regional Economic Roundtable of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City
2010 Meeting of the Mid-Continent Regional Science Association
2010 Spring AUBER Meeting (joint with National Associate of Business Economics (NABE))
2010 Meeting of the Western Regional Science Association
2009 Regional Economic Roundtable of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City
2009 Fall AUBER Meeting
2009 Spring AUBER Meeting (joint with NABE)
2008 Regional Economic Roundtable of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City
2008 North American Meetings of the Regional Science Association International
2008 Fall AUBER Meeting
2008 Spring AUBER Meeting (joint with NABE)
2007 Regional Economic Roundtable of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City
2007 Meeting of the Western Economic Association
2007 Meeting of the Mid-Continent Regional Science Association
2007 Fall AUBER Meeting
2007 Meeting of the Western Regional Science Association International
2006 North American Meeting of the Regional Science Association International
2006 Regional Economic Roundtable of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City
2006 Meeting of the Mid-Continent Regional Science Association
2006 Fall AUBER Meeting.
2005 Regional Economic Roundtable of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City
2006 Meeting of the Western Regional Science Association International
2005 North American Meeting of the Regional Science Association International
2006 Spring AUBER Meeting (joint with NABE)
2005 Fall AUBER Meeting.
2005 Spring Policy Conference of AUBER (joint with NABE)
2005 Investigators Meeting of the Robert Wood Johnson Substance Abuse Policy Program
2004 Fall AUBER Meeting.
2004 North American Meetings of the Regional Science Association International
2003 Spring Policy Conference of AUBER (joint with NAB E)
2003 Southern Regional Science Association Meeting
2003 Fall AUBER Meeting.
2001 North American Meetings of the Regional Science Association International
1999 North American Meetings of the Regional Science Association International
1999 Midwest Economic Association Meeting

MASTER'S THESIS COMMITTEES

Lu Zhang, University of Nebraska-Lincoln (Agricultural Economics) (2008)
Viktor Khanzhyn, University of Nebraska-Lincoln (Economics) (2007), Chair
Annetke Gustafson, University of Nebraska-Lincoln (Agricultural Economics) (2007-2008)
Aziza Kibonge, University of Nebraska-Lincoln (Agricultural Economics) (2006)
Paula Lowe, West Virginia University (1995)

DOCTORAL DISSERTATION COMMITTEES

Ziwen Zhang, University of Nebraska-Lincoln (2011-present), Chair
Van Tran, University of Nebraska-Lincoln (2012-present), Co-Chair
Mariana Saenz, University of Nebraska-Lincoln (2011-present), Co-Chair
Hanna Hartman, University of Nebraska-Lincoln (2012-present)
Andrew Perumal, University of Nebraska-Lincoln (2009-2011), Chair
Phu Tran, University of Nebraska-Lincoln (2009-2011)
Viktor Khanzhyn, University of Nebraska-Lincoln (2010-2011)
Inoussa Boubacar, University of Nebraska-Lincoln (2008-2009)
Natalia Ovchinnikova, University of Nebraska-Lincoln (2006)
Mike Bewley, University of Kentucky (2001)

Courses Taught, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Economics 440/840 (Regional Development)
Economics 419/819 (Applied Research Methods)
Economics 340 (Urban Economics)
Economics 212 (Microeconomics)
Economics 211 (Macroeconomics)
Business Administration 191

SERVICE DEPARTMENTAL

Faculty Advisory, Undergraduate Economics Club, 2012-2014
Chair, Professor of Practice Search Committee, 2011/12-2013/14
Economics Undergraduate Studies Committee, 2006-2008
Economic Graduate Studies Committee, 2010-2013
Economics Research Committee, 2010-2013

COLLEGE

General Committee (2010-2011)
Strategic Planning Outreach Task Force (2010)
Search Committee for Entrepreneurship Center Director (2010-2011)

ACADEMIC ORGANIZATION POSITIONS

President, Association for University Business and Economic Research, October 2008-October 2009 and October 2013-October 2014